

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/893,611

Examiner

LUONG T. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

FUJIWARA, AKIHIRO

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE and Amendments filed on 4/19/2006 and 6/12/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20060901.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/19/2006 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gary M. Jacobs on 09/01/2006.

3. The claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (lines 1-2), "enabling the reproduction" has been changed to --enabling a reproduction--.

Claim 1 (lines 9-10), "a display" has been changed to --the display--.

Claim 1 (line10), "a stereoscopic image" has been changed to --the stereoscopic image--.

Art Unit: 2622

Claim 1 (lines 10-11), "said lens unit" has been changed to --said stereoscopic photographing lens unit--.

Claim 1 (line 13), "a stereoscopic image" has been changed to --the stereoscopic image--.

Claim 1 (line 13), "said lens unit, provided by the control means," has been changed to --said stereoscopic photographing lens unit--.

Claim 1 (line 14), "on the same recording medium together" has been changed to --on the recording medium together--.

Claim 2 (lines 3-4), "the first information,, the second information," has been changed to --the first information, the second information--.

Claim 5 (line 3), "said apparatus" has been changed to --said stereoscopic photographing apparatus--.

Claim 5 (line 10), "the recording medium" has been changed to --the recording means --.

Claim 5 (lines 10-11), "on a display" has been changed to --on the display--.

Claim 5 (line 11), "a stereoscopic image" has been changed to --the stereoscopic image--.

Claim 5 (lines 11-12), "said apparatus" has been changed to --said stereoscopic photographing apparatus--.

Claim 5 (line 15), "a stereoscopic image" has been changed to --the stereoscopic image--.

Claim 5 (line 15), "said apparatus" has been changed to --said stereoscopic photographing apparatus--.

Claim 5 (line 20), "recording medium" has been changed to --recording means--.

Claim 5 (line 24), "recording medium" has been changed to --recording means--.

Claim 6 (line 3), "a stereoscopic image" has been changed to --the stereoscopic image--.

Art Unit: 2622

Claim 6 (line 3), "said apparatus" has been changed to --said stereoscopic photographing apparatus--.

Claim 6 (line 10), "recording medium" has been changed to --recording means--.

Claim 7 (line 1), "enabling the reproduction" has been changed to --enabling a reproduction--.

Claim 7 (lines 2-3), "by said system" has been changed to --by said photographing system--.

Claim 7 (line 11), "said system" has been changed to --said photographing system--.

Claim 7 (line 18), "information" has been changed to --the information--.

Claim 8 (line 3), "a stereoscopic image" has been changed to --the stereoscopic image--.

Claim 8 (line 3), "said system" has been changed to --said photographing system--.

Claim 9 (line 2), "optical system," has been changed to --optical system--.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. Claims 1-11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a stereoscopic photographing lens unit comprising means for providing the information to the recording medium that is to be reproduced on the display and that is needed to properly display and view the stereoscopic image produced by said stereoscopic photographing lens unit by transmitting the information of the photographing optical system that is needed to properly display and view the stereoscopic image produced by said stereoscopic photographing lens unit, to the recording

Art Unit: 2622

medium in the camera main unit for recordation on the recording medium together with the picture signals in such a manner so as to permit reading out and display of the information with the picture signals from the recording medium during reproduction of the picture signals, wherein the information transmitted to the recording medium by said providing means comprises at least one of:

first information regarding a focal length of the photographing optical system;

second information regarding the interval between the incident optical axes of the first photographing optical axis and the second photographing optical axis; and

third information regarding the angle formed by the incident optical axes of the first photographing optical axis and the second photographing optical axis to the camera main unit in the form of digital values.

Claims 2-4, 9 are allowable for the reason given in claim 1.

Regarding claim 5, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a stereoscopic photographing apparatus, comprising means for providing the information to the recording means that is to be reproduced on the display and that is needed to properly display and view a stereoscopic image produced by said stereoscopic photographing apparatus comprising said recording means for recording the information of said photographing optical system that is needed to proper display and view the stereoscopic image produced by said stereoscopic photographing apparatus, wherein the information which includes information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture signal corresponds to the picture signal for left eye or right eye, wherein said recording means records the information regarding whether the odd/even field

Art Unit: 2622

of an input picture signal corresponds to the picture signal for left eye or right eye to the recording means in the form of digital values, together with picture signals representing an image formed by said stereoscopic photographic apparatus or picture signals representing an image formed by said stereoscopic photographic apparatus and speech signals in such a manner to permit reading out of the information with the picture signals or the picture signals and the speech signals from the recording means to the display during reproduction of the picture signals.

Claims 6, 10 are allowable for the reason given in claim 5.

Regarding claim 7, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a photographing system, comprising means for providing the information to the recording medium that is to be reproduced on the display and that is needed to properly display and view the stereoscopic image produced by said photographing system, wherein the information comprises information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture signal corresponds to a picture signal for a left eye or a right eye representing an image produced by the optical system of the right-eye or the left-eye photographing apparatuses, wherein said providing means comprises recording means for recording on the recording medium the information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture signal corresponds to a picture signal for a left eye or a right eye in the form of digital values, together with picture signals representing images produced by the optical system of the right-eye or the left-eye photographing apparatuses or picture signals representing an image produced by the optical system of the right-eye or the left-eye photographing apparatuses and speech signals in such a manner as to permit reading out of

Art Unit: 2622

the information with the picture signals or the picture signals and the speech signals from the recording medium to the display during reproduction of the picture signals.

Claims 8, 11 are allowable for the reason given in claim 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID L. OMETZ can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2622

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LN LN
09/01/06

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Ometz', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER